

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In view of the amendments and remarks herein, favorable reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested. Independent claim 14 has been amended hereby. Claims 14, 15, and 18 are pending for further examination.

In the Advisory Action the Examiner appears to have maintained his rejection of claims 14 and 18 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Miller et al. (U.S. Pat. 5,959,869 “Miller”), in view of Siegel et al. (U.S. Pat. 4,413,260 “Siegel”), Barrett et al. (U.S. Pat. 5,214,761 “Barrett”), and Werth et al. (U.S. Pat. 4,369,442 “Werth”).

Applicant’s claim 14, as amended, recites, *inter alia*, “a communication system for enabling the jukebox device to communicate with a network, said network at least capable of providing audiovisual information distribution.” None of the applied references teach this element of the claimed combination.

The Examiner also concedes that Miller fails to disclose “an operator to access a module in the tools and services library so as to offer a manager ... a given number of credits, ..., the number of credits being stored in a file on the memory as a credit reserve, this file being updated each time that the manager uses a credit... said interface requiring a second code for enabling said second button to function as a request for removing in said file one credit...” The Office Action introduces Siegel to compensate for this deficiency of Miller, but Siegel does not teach or suggest the claimed combination.

Siegel does not teach “a file on the memory is readable/writeable to store the number of credits as a credit reserve, ... said interface requiring a second code for using

said second button to function as a request for removing one credit from the credit reserve in said file ...” Applicant is aware that Siegel was not introduced to teach “said interface requiring a second code for using said second button to function as a request for removing one credit from the credit reserve in said file ...” but Applicant submits that this portion of the claim helps show the nature of the reserve file as being different from a general credit memory credited whenever a user makes a payment.

Siegel does discuss a credit memory, but there is no indication that this is anything other than a general credit memory, incremented each time a user pays a fee. Thus, according to the teachings of Siegel, if a certain number of free credits were input into a machine, then the next number of users to use the machine would use up those credits. Absent a teaching of a credit reserve file reserving credits for protected use, the applied references fails to teach or suggest the claimed combination.

For at least these reasons, Applicant submits that Applicant’s amended claim 14 is allowable over the prior art of record. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

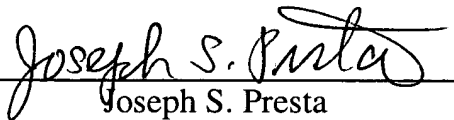
Claims 15 and 18 should be allowable at least based on their dependency from allowable independent claim 14.

NATHAN
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Should the Examiner have any questions regarding this case, or deem that any formal matters need to be addressed prior to allowance, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the phone number below.

Respectfully submitted,

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